

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: S. WATARI et al
Serial No. 09/789,625
Filed: February 22, 2001

Group Art: 1743
Examiner: B. Gordon
For: AUTOMATIC ANALYZER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

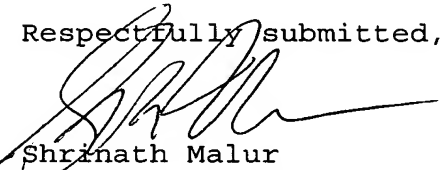
Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Patent Application
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure, the Applicants submit the documents cited on the attached PTO-1449 form. These documents constitute the art of record in the parent application.

The Applicants request the Examiner initial and return a copy of the attached PTO-1449 form as an indication that the references have been considered.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: October 9, 2003

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| FORM PTO-1449 (REV. 7-80) | | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | | ATTY. DOCKET NO. NIP-217-02 | | SERIAL NO. | |
| LIST OF DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | | | | APPLICANT S. WATARI et al | | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE October 9, 2003 | | GROUP | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| * EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE <i>(if Appropriate)</i> |
| | AA | | | | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION |
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| | AL | 7-311204 | 11/28/95 | Japan | | | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</i> | | | | | | | |
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